Trifles Design Worksheet

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1. The way an audience perceives the play is shaped by the choice of performance venue, as well as the set that is designed for the play. Indeed, all the elements that you see and hear during a performance are bound to shape your perception of the play. Which of the following venues do you think can best meet the needs of the play?

Proscenium

Given the details in the script, why do you think it is the best venue for a production?

I think proscenium would work because most everything happens in one area so there is no need for the audience to have to see the play in different angles.

2. What are some of the challenges posed by the play on the design team?

The quilt is a small piece of fabric that had a difference in stitching, the design team would have to figure a way to show this to the audience. Same with the bird.

3. Choose a character from the play and suggest how she/he should be dressed. In what ways do you think the costume would help accentuate his/her character?

The sheriff should be wearing full on uniform with a shiny badge that gives him a high headed aura that will make it obvious to the audience that he doesn’t care for the opinions of women.

4. Given the content of the play, how might the lighting design help further the mood of the production?

As the women find the bird, I think the lights should dim to set in the ominous mood.

5. Suggest music or sound effects that might be used to accentuate the mood or atmosphere of the play and the transitions between parts of the play.

I think the scary violin type sounds should play as the silk in the box is being shuffled around with. As the men enter and exit, upbeat type music should play and more serious or no music in the background when the women are alone.